

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00197 020348Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-10 CU-04 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 SAM-01 DRC-01 /090 W
----- 043490

R 020310Z FEB 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1325

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 197

1. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR GROOTHAERT HAS BEEN TOLD BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR MAN'ACH THAT LATTER HAS RECOMMENDED AND PARIS HAS AGREED THAT VISIT TO PRC OF SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF PARIS BE DEFERRED. THIS DECISION TAKEN AFTER EFFORTS BY FRENCH EMBASSY IN PEKING TO PIN CHINESE DOWN ON DATES FOR VISIT MET WITH NO RESPONSE FROM CHINESE SIDE. THIS WAS DESPITE FACT THAT FRENCH HAD POINTED OUT SYMPHONY'S SCHEDULE WAS FILLING UP AND THAT EARLY DECISION ON TIMING URGENTLY REQUIRED.

2. CONSENSUS AMONG CONCERNED WESTERN AMBASSADORS HERE IS THAT PRESENT MOMENT IS NOT AUSPICIOUS ONE FOR HIGH-PROFILE CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS AND THAT ANY SUCH EVENTS SHOULD BE RESCHEDULED FOR SOME TIME LATER, WHEN AND IF ANTI-WESTERN MUSIC THEME IN PRC PROPAGANDA HAS DIED DOWN. ARRANGEMENTS FOR LOWER-PROFILE EXCHANGES ARE CONTINUING, HOWEVER: E.G. BRITISH ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO VISIT OF UK ARCHEOLOGICAL DELEGATION IN APRIL.
JENKINS

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NNN

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Disposition Reason:
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